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# ***Michigan Music is World Class*** **Campaign**

c/o Jam Rag Press; 248-542-8090 T-F 12-6 [jamrag@usnmail.com](mailto:jamrag@usnmail.com)  
Box 20076, Ferndale MI 48220

RECEIVED  
JUL 28 1999  
FCC MAIL ROOM

**re: MM Docket 99-25, i.e. community radio**

7-26-99

Magalie Roman Salas

Office of the Secretary

TW-A306

Federal Communications Commission

445 12<sup>th</sup> St SW, Washington DC 20554

Sir or Madam,

Enclosed please find approximately 4,000 letters from Michigan citizens in support of community radio, MM Docket 99-25.

We would have preferred to submit these letters as part of our formal comments, which will be submitted on July 28, 1999. However, the cost of copying and shipping 15 copies of all these letters was prohibitive.

No. of Copies rec'd  
List ABCDE

045

The letters are copies of letters sent to Michigan's state-level elected officials, urging them to adopt various resolutions in favor of community radio. They are sorted according to state senate and house districts. As you can see, we have letters from about 75% of the state. Also enclosed are various petitions, letters to our Governor, other unsorted letters, etc.

Late in 1998, the Michigan Legislature introduced Senate Resolution 234 and House Resolution 379, urging the F.C.C. to re-authorize community radio. However, with only a few days left in session, the resolutions died in committee despite a very large number of co-sponsors.

The resolutions were reintroduced in 1999 as SR53 and HR67. Again, both resolutions gained enormous support, with over one-third of each chamber signing on as co-sponsors. However, the Michigan Legislature went into recess in mid-June, and will not resume session until Sept. 14 -- after the public comment period on MM Docket 99-25 has ended. Thus, SR53 and HR67 will have again been effectively be killed in committee.

One of the areas we explore in our soon-to-be-filed comments is (in our opinion), the "undue influence of the broadcast industry over the regulatory process." These resolutions are a case in point;

So far, the Michigan Music Campaign has been successful in gathering 25 city council resolutions -- representing about two million citizens -- in favor of community radio. The key point is that every single one has passed unanimously -- over 200 mayors and council members have all voted in favor. Not a single vote has been cast against community radio!

However, at the state level, where the influence of the Michigan Association of Broadcasters (M.A.B.) looms large,

we have run into a substantially different situation. On the one hand, we presented our 4,000 constituent letters, along with our many council resolutions, not to mention support from many prominent community groups and leaders. Also in our favor were 38 co-sponsors in the House and 13 in the Senate. To our knowledge, but a single letter was ever presented in opposition to our resolutions -- from the M.A.B.

In the House of Representatives, the Chair of the Energy & Technology Committee Mary Middaugh (where HR67 had been referred) received four letters from the author of HR67, asking for the resolution to be brought up in her committee. Other legislators also wrote to Rep. Middaugh, but to no avail. Middaugh simply "refused to budge." In the end, a single letter from the broadcast lobby was enough to block 4,000 letters from the public and at least a third of the Michigan legislature.

In order to correct this travesty of democracy, discharge motions were introduced in the final hours of session in both chambers. However, partisan politics narrowly blocked the discharge motions (in the Senate, the vote was 16-20, with no record in the House).

In the words of Charles Lewis (of the Center for Public Integrity in Washington), "The reason (the broadcasters are so powerful is...they control the fate of all politicians."

Thus, the letters we present today represent an important part of what this struggle is all about. Not only do they speak volumes about the incredible and virtually unanimous public support for community radio, this story is also telling about the quality of our democratic process. Our direct experience seems to prove our assertion about an "undue influence of the broadcast industry over the regulatory process." And it goes without saying that such influence is not in the public interest, necessity or convenience, regarding the public airwaves.

We applaud the F.C.C. Commissioners for their landmark decision on Jan. 28, 1999 to release MM Docket 99-25, and believe this to be a vitally important and correct decision for the agency. We urge you to adopt MM Docket 99-25 expeditiously and as comprehensively as possible.

Respectfully,

The image shows three handwritten signatures in black ink. The first signature on the left is 'Sue Ness' in a cursive script. To its right are two more signatures: a stylized, looped signature that appears to be 'Tom' and another more fluid, cursive signature that also appears to be 'Tom'.

Tom & Sue Ness

Jam Rag Press/"Michigan Music is World Class" Campaign

Hear Rep.

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Please support HR67 for  
Community radio.

Robert Mouton  
14460 Rochelle  
Detroit MI  
48205

32953 Grennada  
Livonia, Michigan 48154  
May 17, 1999

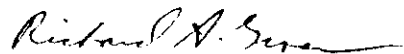
Senator Thaddeus McCotter  
P.O. Box 30036  
Lansing, Michigan 48909-7536

Dear Senator McCotter,

Please support Resolution 53 for community radio.

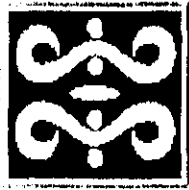
Community radio is important for minority interests. Please give these  
broadcasters a chance.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard A. Groen".

Mr. Richard A. Groen

Astarte-Luna Records



43422 West Oaks Drive

PMB #253

Novi, MI 48377

Days: (248) 372-3284

Evening/Weekends: (248) 344-9349

<http://www.mutualhatesociety.net>

Email: [starryeyedlady@zdneta.com](mailto:starryeyedlady@zdneta.com)

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

June 3, 1999

Dear Senator Knollenburg:

Please support Resolution 53 for community radio. It is very important for communities to be able to utilize radio in order to reach out to their people and bring the communication gap. It is an effective tool that can effectively help bring our communities closer together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tracy Peters". The signature is fluid and stylized, with the first and last names clearly legible.

Tracy Peters

Astarte-Luna Records



Astarte-Luna Records



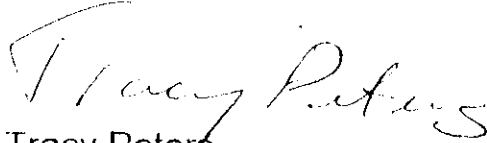
43422 West Oaks Drive  
PMB #253  
Novi, MI 48377  
Days: (248) 372-3284  
Evening/Weekends: (248) 344-9349  
<http://www.mutualhatesociety.net>  
Email: [starryeyedlady@zdnnetmail.com](mailto:starryeyedlady@zdnnetmail.com)

June 3, 1999

Dear Representative Cassis:

Please support Resolution 67 for community radio. It is very important for communities to be able to utilize radio in order to reach out to their people and bring the communication gap. It is an effective tool that can effectively help bring our communities closer together.

Sincerely,



Tracy Peters  
Astarte-Luna Records

Dear Mr. Dingel,  
Please support House  
resolution 379 and Senate  
resolution 234.

Thank-you  
Ed C. Kipert  
12703 Dayton  
Soulhake, Mich.  
48195

Dear Chris Dingell,

Please support House Resolution 379 and Senate Resolution 234.

Thank You

*Jeanette M. Cavins*

Jeanette M. Cavins

12757 Ronda Dr.

Southgate, MI 48195

**DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL**

**From:** don <capistrano@earthlink.net>  
**To:** cperric@house.state.mi.us <cperric@house.state.mi.us>  
**Cc:** jamrag@glis.net <jamrag@glis.net>; mjonhermusheen@voyager.net  
 <mjonhermusheen@voyager.net>; tangovision@ameritech.net <tangovision@ameritech.net>  
**Date:** Saturday, June 05, 1999 9:59 PM  
**Subject:** LOW POWER RADIO And MICHIGAN'S Reputation

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Dear Mr. Speaker,

I thought you should know that the eyes of the nation -- and even the world -- are on Michigan right now.

There is a national AND international community of people, ranging from radicals to Republicans, who support licensing of Low Power Radio stations in America. We see Low Power Radio as an absolutely VITAL counterweight to the current domination of radio and television by a handful of megacorporations.

We are hoping that MICHIGAN will lead the way for the rest of the country.

We are aware of the pending Resolution, in the Michigan Legislature, that would support the licensing of Low Power radio stations. We are ALSO aware that, even though such a Resolution would reportedly win if put to a vote on the House floor, efforts are being made to prevent such a vote.

If a vote is not taken during the coming week, it will likely not be taken at all until after the Legislature's multi-month Recess.

Since the FCC will be considering Low Power Radio during the Recess period, and Congress may be considering the same issue during the same time period, a Resolution adopted AFTER the Recess may come too late to make an impact on the proceedings in Washington.

As the old courtroom saying puts it, there ARE times when "Justice delayed is justice denied." THIS is one of those times!!

IF Low Power Radio is defeated in the Michigan Legislature -- and ESPECIALLY if it is defeated by high-handed procedures, rather than through a vote on the merits -- THEN the reputation of the Michigan Legislature will suffer visibly, in the eyes of many. Far outside the boundaries of Michigan, and even far outside the boundaries of the United States, the highly talkative people who comprise the Low Power Radio movement will Spread The Word that Michigan's legislative leaders do not trust democracy enough to put Low Power Radio to a vote.

In an era when states are competing with other states, AND with other countries, to attract talented people and growth-oriented companies, it would NOT be helpful for Michigan to have a reputation for stifling change, sabotaging the democratic process AND allowing a dynamic new industry to be "strangled in its cradle" -- all for the sake of an ESTABLISHED industry that has a lousy case but a lot of money.

How many entrepreneurs are you going to attract to Michigan once Word Gets Out that entrepreneurs and artists CAN'T EVEN GET THEIR CONCERNS PUT TO A

VOTE in the Michigan Legislature?

My own background includes work in and for the business community, plus an entrepreneurial streak that is all my own.

I KNOW how business people think.

Frankly, a state that knowingly indulges an established industry, TOTALLY and unconditionally, by absolutely SAVAGING a new industry -- denying that new industry even "the right to life" -- is NOT a state that will "look good" to corporations which want to GROW.

THINK about it. What corporation would WANT to be a corporate newcomer in a state where only ESTABLISHED industries count??

For that matter, how is it going to look to MICHIGAN'S OWN CITIZENS if the DETROIT FREE PRESS, and/or some other local newspapers, report that Low Power Radio -- despite the support of thousands of Michiganders AND a majority of Michigan legislators -- was kept from even coming to a vote??

How will YOU look -- as Speaker of the House and a leader of your party??

Maybe you're too entrenched in your own legislative seat to be hurt by such disclosures. However, this cannot be said of OTHER legislators from your political party. If YOU allow a vote on Low Power Radio to be blocked, and THEY acquiesce, then YOU will be responsible for making THEIR re-election campaigns more difficult.

Since THEY are the people who re-elect YOU as Speaker, or -- depending upon the outcome of the election -- as Minority Leader, you cannot be indifferent to their fates.

In this regard, it must be obvious to you by now that Low Power Radio activists are ORGANIZED and INTENSE. We know how to identify marginal incumbents and we will NOT forget those legislators who acquiesce to blocking a vote.

I am NOT a Michigander, although I DO know -- and love -- people who live there. Still, even speaking as a current New Englander and a former Washington lawyer, I ask you to seriously consider the impact on Michigan's REPUTATION, and your own, if the Low Power Radio Resolution is not even brought to the floor for a vote.

I LIKE Michigan -- and its people. I have even thought of living there myself. PLEASE do not sully my positive image of Michigan by engaging in a denial of democracy. one that would strangle the future to indulge an interest group of the present.

Sincerely,

Don Schellhardt

capistrano@earthlink.net  
203/591-9177

45 Bracewood Road  
Waterbury, CT 06706

Co-Founder & National Coordinator,  
THE AMHERST ALLIANCE

Co-Petitioner, FCC DOCKET NO. RM-9208

Former GS-15 Senior Policy Advisor at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC; former Government Relations executive, including Director of Legislative & Regulatory Affairs, at the American [Natural] Gas Association, Arlington, VA (since moved to Washington, DC); former Legislative Counsel to U.S. Representative Matthew J. Rinaldo (R-NJ, retired), Washington, DC; former Legislative Analyst with the House [of Representatives] Republican Research Committee, Washington, DC; former Public Relations Consultant with the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, Washington, DC

B.A. Government, Wesleyan University (CT)

J.D. International & Regulatory Law, George Washington University (DC)

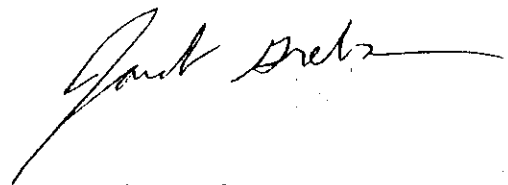
Editorial Board, JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW & ECONOMICS (student law review at G.W.)

Member of the Bar, VA & CT

Dear Respectable Representative Liz Brater,

Please support senate resolution 234 and house resolution 379 urging the FCC to relegalize community radio. I strongly feel that this issue is an important milestone to reaching a truly free society. One in which all ideas are considered, not just the ones with money and power. A society where the people have a voice and are not held back by corporate radio monopolies restricting our most important right, free speech. There is a reason for it being our 1st amendment and we should put a tremendous amount of attention into keeping true to the Constitution. Please stand up for the right thing and support this issue. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jacob Greba", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jacob Greba

123 Adams  
Ann Arbor, MI  
48104

ALICIA WARRINGTON  
2302 DEINDORFER ST.  
SABINAW, MI 48602  
9-2-98

DEAR MICHAEL HANLEY,

THE MICHIGAN MUSIC CAMPAIGN NEEDS  
YOUR SUPPORT IN PASSING A RESOLUTION URGING THE F.C.C.  
TO RELEGATIZE COMMUNITY RADIO.

THANK YOU,  
Alicia Warrington



Dear Representative Clark Harder,

Please support House Resolution 379 and Senate Resolution 234, urging the F.C.C. to relegalize community radio. Local radio gives the opportunity for people with a smaller budget to be heard. Small business is the foundation of the state. Please support community radio.

*Michael Alchin*

Michael Alchin  
11500 S Ruess Rd  
Perry, MI 48872

Senator Hart,

Please support Senate  
Resolution 234 and House  
resolution 379 in support  
of community radio.

Thank you,

Gilda Kolbusz  
GILDA KOLBUSZ  
7436 VERNON  
Ann Arbor, MI  
48127